suit of a compromise. An intermediate court of appeals, to relieve the Supreme Court of a portion of the heavy burden laid on it, was twice authorized by the Philippine Legislature only to have one bill vetoed, and the second approved but never put in force, due to the fear of the Washington authorities that American sovereignty would not be sufficiently protected. Nothing daunted, the Legislature tried again, and on this occasion provided for a court of fifteen, but the United States Senate wisely refused to confirm the Presidential nominations to such an unwieldy court because, as one distinguished Senator observed, it was "stupid legislation." For the third time the Legislature acted to provide for a court of eleven, and this law worked acceptably when tried out.

The Supreme Court meets in Manila every year in July, and except for the Christmas holidays, sits continuously until April. During April and May, court sessions are usually held in Baguio. The Solicitor-General acts for the Government in the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has been granted jurisdiction equivalent approximately to that of a Supreme Court of a State and of a United States Circuit Court of Appeals. It has been a tribunal of great power and dignity. Many of its practices conform to those of other appellate courts. In certain respects, however, the Court harrowed new ground. Being required to decide 2,000 cases annually to keep its docket clear, it decided that many cases. (In 1934, the last full year before the establishment of the Philippine Commonwealth, the Supreme

Court disposed of 2,316 cases.) Being free to go either to the common law or the civil law to find a principle, the Court could select that rule that was most practically and humanly applicable to the facts. Being susceptible to little restraint, the Court could cut through technicalities to do justice. Being a Court which had to piece out the meaning of legislation, it judicially legislated, and it is silly to contend otherwise. I am convinced that State courts could learn helpful lessons from